



# MEREDITH HERALD

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## Meredith's Weekly Weather

**WEDNESDAY FEB. 18**  
Partly Cloudy  
High 42/ Low 29

**THURSDAY FEB. 19**  
Sunny  
High 57/ Low 36

**FRIDAY FEB. 20**  
Partly Cloudy  
High 60/ Low 44

**SATURDAY FEB. 21**  
Scattered Thunderstorms  
High 63/ Low 47

**SUNDAY FEB. 22**  
Partly Cloudy  
High 63/ Low 38

**MONDAY FEB. 23**  
Partly Cloudy  
High 56/ Low 36

**TUESDAY FEB. 24**  
Partly Cloudy  
High 50/ Low 35

## Elaine Marshall to Speak at Spring Commencement

**TIFFANY ADAMS**  
Editor in Chief

The Executive Board of the Class of 2004 announced at the last senior class meeting on January 30 that North Carolina Secretary of State Elaine F. Marshall would speak at the commencement exercises on May 9.

The Executive Board said Marshall was an outstanding candidate to speak to the graduating class because she is well-rounded and has a connection with North Carolina and most importantly with Meredith College.

Meredith College President Maureen Hartford said, "From the courtroom to the state senate to the executive branch of state government, N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall has amassed an enviable and impressive record as one of the most influential and respected leaders in our state and beyond."

In addition, Hartford said Marshall's "commitment to legal and governmental issues and to community and professional service is evidenced by her work with the state and national bar associations, with N.C. 4-H programs, with technology groups, and with political organizations."

Jeannie Morelock, Assistant to the President for Communications, said, "Marshall served on the Meredith College Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2002. She served as Vice



North Carolina Secretary of State Elaine Marshall.

Photo courtesy of [www.elainemarshall.org](http://www.elainemarshall.org)

Chair of the Board of Trustees during 2001-02."

Hartford said, "She served as a dedicated member of the Meredith Board of Trustees, and has been an outstanding speaker at several Meredith events in the past. Elaine Marshall serves as a true inspiration and role model for Meredith women, and we are delighted to welcome her back to our campus in May."

The Executive Board said having strong leadership was the most important criterion for selecting a commencement speaker. Members of the Executive Board said, "We stepped in to find a speaker who would be the best for our class." The Board invited suggestions from class members to fulfill this goal, and Marshall was among the

most outstanding individuals suggested.

"She was a top choice of the Executive Board and the class," said the Executive Board. The Board wishes to keep other names suggested as potential speakers confidential.

Marshall has served as the N.C. Secretary of State since 1997. Marshall made history in 1996, when she was elected Secretary of State, becoming the first woman in North Carolina elected to a statewide executive office. Among her many other accomplishments, she served as Senator for the 15th District of North Carolina from 1993-1994. In 2001, she was named an Academy of Women Inductee for the Wake County YWCA. The YWCA established the

Academy of Women in 1983 to honor the outstanding and diverse achievements of Wake County women. Colleagues, employers, families and friends nominate outstanding women annually for the honor of induction into the Academy.

Several other Meredith women have received this prestigious award. Alumna and Vice President for Student Development Dr. Jean Jackson, '75, alumna and Alumni Association President Deborah Dove Smith, '80, alumna and trustee Elizabeth Triplett Beam, '72, alumnae Barbara Goodman and Valerie Brown, and former instructor Kathy Olevsky are among inductees.

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